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OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA: Air Pouch
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. PGA-A - 3301

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, FDP

DATE: 27 December 1950

FROM : Chief of Station, ☐ ☐

SUBJECT: GENERAL.

Am. Opn. Matter. Secrecy
SPECIFIC: ☒ ☐ Conversation with DECADAL

REFERENCE: WASH F 23311

1. On or about 19 October 1950 (arrival date of member of FAC in Athens) Chief of Station advised ☒ ☐ to call on ☐ and, without telling them the real purpose of his visit, find out whether they had any news to communicate to us on the arrival of the above mentioned team ☐ was not told the history of the Kosovar team prior to calling at ☐ office) and also concerning the arrival of the members of the FAC.
2. During his visit, neither ☐ ☐ mentioned to ☐ ☐ the team or the arrival of the FAC members.
3. While the members of the FAC were in Athens ☐ ☐ was also here) ☐ ☐ was busy reporting on the activities of the Committee and attended two or three conferences with ☐ ☐ while he ☐ ☐ was still in complete darkness as to the presence of the Kosovar team in Athens. The members of the Committee left Athens for Rome on 8 November 1950.
4. On 24 November 1950, ☐ ☐ authorized ☐ ☐ to meet the Kosovar team. The first day ☐ ☐ saw two of them for an hour and the next day he saw the other two for about the same length of time.
5. The members of the team, not knowing in whose behalf ☐ ☐ was talking, were reticent and gave the same account to ☐ ☐ as they had given to the Greek interrogators. The Kosovars expressed gratitude to the Greek authorities and ☐ ☐ noticed that they were acting and speaking diplomatically and hoped that when the safe house was found (as yet one has not been found) they would relax and tell the entire story.
6. It was on one of these days that ☐ ☐ had called on the Chief of Station, who in turn called ☐ ☐ in to instruct him about the safe house. It was at this meeting that ☐ ☐ told ☐ ☐ that he should vaguely tell ☐ ☐ and Dem Ali POZHARI (both DECADAL's followers) of the presence of the Kosovar team in Greece.

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7. By the time [] asked the A.D. to permit the above mentioned men to come to Athens and their arrival, three days had passed.

8. When [] called at [] room, he had already heard the story from Jup BEJAKU in the following manner:

Shakir KABASHI, the brother of Ahmet KABASHI, a junior member of the team, who works somewhere outside Athens, had received a letter from his brother Ahmet telling him that he was safe and alive and living in a Military Prison in Athens. Shakir, anxious to see his brother from whom he had not heard for months, had gone to two or three Military Prisons but was unable to ascertain where his brother was. In despair he had shown the letter to Jup BEJAKU who spread the news to all the Albanians and it is believed that the same news was passed to PJ Cape by Luar GASHI.

9. [] was informed that the presence of the team had leaked out through lack of security on their part.

10. On 25 November, when [] went home for lunch, he found the attached cable from Self KRYEZEN. [] notified the Chief of Station, who in turn cabled Headquarters the same day.

11. [], after consulting with the Chief of Station, who had approved [] meeting with DECADAL, made arrangements with the A.D. that both [] and Dem Ali POZHARI be brought to Athens so that the three of them could go and meet DECADAL on the S. S. BARLETTA. The cable from KRYEZEN read that the ship would be in Piraeus on 26 November, however, the ship arrived on 27 November.

12. On 26 November the Chief of Station, apparently following instructions from Headquarters, advised [] not to see DECADAL. Early in the morning, 27 November, when [] and POZHARI called on [] he told them to go to see DECADAL by themselves and instructed them to tell DECADAL that he [] was out of town. [] not wanting to see DECADAL surprised the Albanians, but more so the A.D. office, who had made arrangements with the Port authorities for [] and the two others to be permitted to board the S. S. BARLETTA.

13. The meeting of DECADAL with his two followers was cabled, Reference [] P 3518.

14. WASH F 21104 authorized [] to meet DECADAL on his return from Istanbul on 2 December and to take one of the Kosovars as spokesman [] objected to letting one member of the team go with [] to Piraeus and instead, he suggested that DECADAL might see them while in Athens, since it was supposed that he (DECADAL) might stay in Athens one or two days.

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15. [] accompanied by an A.D. agent, boarded the S. S. BARIETTA at 8:30 A.M. and went directly to DECADAL's room. DECADAL had a roommate, an Italian civilian, with the rank of captain.

16. DECADAL, seeing [] accompanied by a civilian agent, remarked in Albanian that "both of us are accompanied" and invited [] upstairs for breakfast.

17. DECADAL, after jokingly remarking that he and [] were former "enemies" (alluding to [] blasting him through Bari Radio during the German occupation of Albania when DECADAL was the Minister of Interior) opened the subject on how his relation with KUCIZTU had improved and had joined hands, Reference [] F 3562 (paragraph 2 - A, B, C, D, E). DECADAL finally wanted [] opinion on how much he was willing to help and if he was in a position to help further the Kosovar problem.

18. [] after telling him that he could not get involved in any of the Albanian political moves because of his official capacity and as a citizen of the United States and also because of the existence of FAC, which should be supported at any cost, he [] was mostly interested in knowing what was going on in Albania and how could he, DECADAL, contribute by using his influence among his Kosovar followers.

19. It was here that he expressed anger that one of the members of the "throw off" team had broken the security against his strong instructions to the contrary. [] explained to him how this had happened, which he already knew from POZHARI. While this conversation was going on the Italian civilian brought in a cable and read it to him. Later DECADAL explained that the contents of the cable advised them to proceed to Rome and not to stop in Athens for a couple of days as DECADAL had told [] and POZHARI he would when on his way to Istanbul.

20. [] drove him to Athens and directly to [] office. While driving, [] asked DECADAL whether he had any commitments with the Italians for sending Kosovar missions into Albania, to which he replied in the negative. Then [] asked DECADAL if he would be willing to work and cooperate with "us" (implying our organization) through the Greeks, to this he answered in the affirmative.

21. The meeting with [] was very cordial and DECADAL apologized for the misbehavior of one of the members of the team. [] then asked DECADAL to meet his men, who had been wanting to see him. However, lack of time made it impossible to drive DECADAL to the military prison, consequently,

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[] himself, telephoned to the prison and ordered that the four men be brought to the telephone. The following transpired in the telephone conversation between DECADAL and KAPASHI, the youngest member of the team:

- (a) Welcomed them and regretted the death of the Captain.
- (b) Reprimanded them for having let him down (alluding to the letter that KAPASHI had written to his brother.
- (c) Told them that DECADAL would soon be back.
- (d) Told them that they should have full trust in [] who would take care of them.
- (e) Told them that they should have patience.

Nothing else was discussed over the telephone.

22. [] then took up the points mentioned in paragraph 20. DECADAL told him that he would be happy to cooperate with [] and his [] office and that these matters would be discussed thoroughly upon his return to Athens.

23. While driving back to Piraeus, DECADAL told [] that the money the team brought in belongs to them and should be turned over to them [] did not hear this part of the discussion over the telephone).

24. DECADAL asked [] if there were ways and means of corresponding with him, to which question [] answered that he ([] was not authorized to correspond by official pouch and to correspond through the Greek or Italian Postoffice was unadvisable, due to the censorship the above mentioned countries exercise on private letters.

FIELD COMMENT: It has been brought to the attention of the Chief of Station and also to the attention of the Headquarters that DECADAL must be authorized to visit Athens and talk first to members of the "throw off" team and second to seven Kosovars (whose headquarters are not known), who are ready to go into Albania.

P.S. The safe house mentioned in Paragraph 5 has now been found.

Attachment - 1

SECRET

APL/pml 3-Wash, 1-File